

COUNTRY Rumania Approved For Release 2002/07/12 : CIA-RDP80-00810A000200150010-2REPORT NO. TOPIC Rumanian Troop Training Camp near Cincul

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EVALUATION 25X1X PLACE OBTAINED 25X1ADATE OF CONTENT 25X1ADATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 31 December 1952REFERENCES 25X1APAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) REMARKS

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1. According to observations made prior to December 1951, the Rumanian troop training camp near Cincul (R 36/R 71) was enlarged in 1950. New quarters for troops, who, until 1949, had to be billeted in villages near the training grounds were built. In early December 1951, the troop training grounds was bordered by the villages of Cincul, Merghindeal (R 36/R 61), Dealul Frumos (R 36/R 61), Noistat (R 36/R 72), Movile (R 36/R 72) and Selistat (R 36/R 71). These communities had to give up some of their land for the expansion of the training grounds.
2. The training grounds covered a hilly area with large meadows and woodland. Landmarks observed by source included two rounded hilltops, conspicuously located close together approximately in the center of the area. They were the focal point in all exercises held there. The hilly area gradually sloped toward the west and east from these two summits. Deep valleys were in the woodland in the north section of the training area.
3. Hutments consisting of two rows of low wooden huts each with six huts were on the northwest edge of Cincul prior to 1949. Three or four other rows of 6 huts were added in 1950 and 1951. They were buildings about 8 meters wide and had brick foundations. Garage buildings and a large transformer station were on the north side of the area. The entire area had a barbed-wire fence and included several recreation grounds. The population referred to the installation as "Officers Camp". Motor vehicles carrying Rumanian officers were frequently seen. Low wooden buildings could be seen from the hills on the training grounds. They were west and southwest of Movile on the edges of the woodlands. Residents of the area knew that similar buildings were in the woods. A Rumanian unit of 40 to 50 men was permanently quartered in the former farm yards south of Movile in December 1950. The soldiers often went to Merghindeal to get their laundry washed.
4. Large Rumanian units usually held exercises between July and September or October. Small units held exercises with live ammunition in May and June. The Cincul-Merghindeal road, which crossed the training grounds at a length of about 4 km, was blocked to civilian traffic during the period of training activity.
5. Many of the troops undergoing training in the camp were detrained at Voila (R 35/W 79) railroad station. Other units marched to the training camp from the

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Sighisoara (R 36/R 7h) railroad station. In July 1951, mountain units were holding maneuvers with live ammunition along the ridge of hills in the center of the training grounds. They included mountain infantrymen with berets. Source saw eight light guns dug in. Source observed spectators who had arrived in eight large buses to attend the exercise and from this concluded that the maneuver was a demonstration. In July and August 1951, at least 6 or 8 infantry companies marched through Merghindeal. They wore either boots or wrapped leggings. Three or four mountain infantry companies wearing berets marched through this village at about the same time. Each of the two marching groups had a number of horse-drawn vehicles. Some officers were mounted. Source also saw an artillery battalion of four guns, each drawn by six horses. In the summer of 1951, eight AA guns were emplaced in the vicinity of Merghindeal. The color of the uniforms of the AA gunners was that of other troops. In addition to foot units with horse-drawn vehicles, source on two occasions in the summer of 1951 saw groups of 12 to 14 three-axle motor trucks with short engine superstructures carrying infantrymen and six or eight armored track-laying vehicles.

6. Two laundries were established in Merghindeal for troops on the training grounds. The women that did the laundry arrived with the units. The laundries discontinued operation in December 1951. Soldiers reported that they were forbidden to write letters from the camp. Their families, however, were usually informed of their being at the camp. On Sundays they played football with the men of the village. Military bands sometimes gave concerts. Only Hungarians and no foreign officers were seen in the village on such occasions. Soldiers were no longer billeted in the villages after the summer of 1950.

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Source stated that the civilian population was allowed to enter the training grounds when no maneuvers were held there.

8. In the fall of 1951, five ethnic Germans were drafted to the Rumanian Army and 10 or 12 to labor units. Those serving with the armed forces had no relatives living in Germany.
9. Rumanian military quarters were seen close to the village of Homorod (R 36/R 7h) in the summer of 1951. The soldiers quartered there were infantry men with horses who had arrived by train at the Homorod-Lupea railroad station. The installation had been a stud farm prior to World War II. Most Rumanian units observed during the maneuver period in the fall of 1951 were infantry units. They were armed with light horse-drawn guns of about 70-mm caliber and had only a few motor trucks of different types.²

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